

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09812.0143

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08. A copy of the listed foreign patent document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. JP 57-002102 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 18 of the specification of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is also enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 21, 2006

By:



David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				<i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	
Sheet	1	of	1	<i>Application Number</i>	10/549,671
				<i>Filing Date</i>	June 20, 2006
				<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Susumu MORIOKA
				<i>Art Unit</i>	Not Yet Assigned
				<i>Examiner Name</i>	Not Yet Assigned
				<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	09812.0143

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 57-002102	01-07-1982	HITACHI LTD		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.